

To: Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]
Cc: Harrison, Melissa[Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]
From: Grantham, Nancy
Sent: Sat 8/29/2015 12:56:29 PM
Subject: Re: NPL Discussion

This is spot on -- and yesterday we were asked by the la plata county attorney about a possible earmark and how that would impact superfund designation and funding - Shaun and whomever comes from dc should be prepared for that question.

Thx ng

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 29, 2015, at 6:48 AM, Gray, David <gray.david@epa.gov> wrote:

Nancy -

I gave the paper a quick review. I've enclosed a copy of one of an excerpt from a more recent press inquiry regarding NPL. It lays out the key challenges that face us as we broach this subject and ones that any strategy should be prepared to address.

Based on the sensitivity - the first round of these discussions should be supported by the highest level personnel possible and we should also consider utilizing our DC-based experts.

David

Subject: questions regarding gold king cleanup

.... , writing a story on potential remediation efforts at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, where town officials are seeking federal disaster relief funding but have resisted Superfund designation -- in part because they feel there's no funding in the Superfund and they would be back of the line in terms of national priorities.

Critics of the EPA are threatening lawsuits, decrying a lack of information and even alluding to the possibility that the EPA caused the spill on purpose. Local officials I've talked to say that political posturing is not productive and that they hope to work with EPA on a viable long-term solution.

However, without Superfund money what can the EPA realistically do to clean up such a complex orphaned mine and other like it around the West?

Is there hope in the agency that this will revive talk of Congress reinstating the polluters pay tax that funded so many cleanups from 1980 to 2003, including the Eagle Mine here in my back yard in Eagle County? ...

From: Grantham, Nancy
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 8:30 AM
To: Gray, David
Subject: FW: NPL Discussion

From: McGrath, Shaun
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:10 PM
To: Stanislaus, Mathy; Natarajan, Nitin; Brooks, Becky; Breen, Barry; Stalcup, Dana; Ammon, Doug; Grantham, Nancy; Harrison, Melissa; Cohen, Nancy; Hilosky, Nick; Akinnusotu, Bunmi
Subject: NPL Discussion

During our call on Tuesday regarding how to approach the invitations we have received from LaPlata County and San Juan County to discuss issues relevant to NPL listing, Superfund staff from R8 and OSWER have developed the attached draft strategy.

Please let me know if you would like to schedule a follow up conference call to discuss, or if you think we can proceed to schedule discussions (responding to outstanding invitations from the County Commissions).

Shaun McGrath

Regional Administrator

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